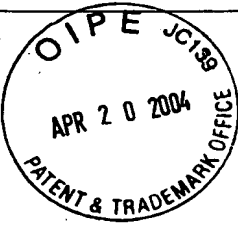


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Maruyama, et al.		Atty. Dkt.: 02-101
Serial No.: 10/670,512		Group Art Unit: 2854
Filed: September 26, 2003		Examiner: Unknown
Title: WASHER EQUIPMENT		

Commissioner for Patents
Arlington, VA 22202

Date: April 20, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 are being submitted for consideration by the Examiner without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art, or without any admission that they contain subject matter that anticipates the invention or renders the invention obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Further, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e), the undersigned hereby certifies that each listed reference was first cited in a Communication (copy enclosed) from a foreign patent office in connection with a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

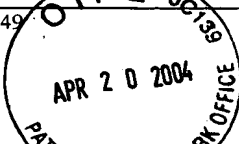
Although no fees are believed to be due at this time, it is respectfully requested that any such fees be charged to Deposit Account 50-1147. Also, the Examiner is requested to initial the attached PTO Form-1449 and to return a copy of same to the undersigned attorney as proof that the listed references have been considered and made of record.

Respectfully submitted,



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FORM PTO-1449		ATTY. DKT NO. 02-101	SER. NO. 10/670,512
		APPLICANT Maruyama, et al.	
		FILING DATE Sept. 26, 2003	GROUP 2854

REFERENCE DESIGNATION

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS
		6,354,515	03/12/02	Matsumoto, et al.		

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	YES	NO
		FR 2 548 606	01/11/85	France				Engl. Abstract	
		DE 198 54 127	05/31/00	Germany				Engl. Abstract	
		EP 1 082 999	03/14/01	Europe				Engl. Abstract	

* Full English text of the JP Document will be available in machine-translated form from JP (Japanese Patent Office) English language web site at <http://www1.ipdl.jpo.go.jp/PA1/cgi-bin/PA1INDEX>.

OTHER REFERENCES (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

		European Search Report dated March 4, 2004.
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED